

E. # 73

DOCUMENT 179

Imperial Ordinance Relating to
General Rules concerning the
Organization of the Ministries.

Article 1.

The present rules shall be applicable to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, of Home Affairs, of Finance, of War, of the Navy, of Justice, of Education, of Agriculture and Forestry, of Commerce and Industry, of Communications, of the Railways, of Overseas Affairs, and of Welfare.

Article 2.

Each Minister shall be responsible for the affairs of which the principal competency belongs to him.

When there are affairs of which it is not clear where the principal competency belongs and which concern two Ministries or over, it shall be decided where the principal competency belongs by submitting the said affairs to the Cabinet Council.

Article 3.

Each Minister shall, when it is necessary to enact, repeal or amend a law or an Imperial Ordinance in regard to the affairs of which the principal competency belongs to him, submit the said affairs to the Cabinet Council, together with a draft for such enactment, repeal or amendment.

Article 4.

Each Minister may, by virtue of his official authority or by virtue of a special authorization, issue a Ministerial Ordinance in regard to the affairs of which the principal competency belongs to him.

Article 5.

Each Minister may, in regard to the affairs of which the principal competency belongs to him, issue directions of instructions to the Superintendent-General of Metropolitan Police, the Governor-General of Hokkaido and the Prefectural Governors.

Article 6.

Each Minister shall, in regard to the affairs of which the principal competency belongs to him, supervise the Superintendent-General of Metropolitan Police, the Governor-General of Hokkaido and Prefectural Governors. If he deems that any orders or dispositions of the

Superintendent-General of Metropolitan Police, the Governor-General of Hokkaido or the Prefectural Governors are contrary to the existing regulations, detrimental to the public good or ultra vires, he may suspend or cancel such orders or dispositions.

Article 7.

Each Minister shall control and supervise Government officials under his jurisdiction; shall submit to the Throne, through the Prime Minister, the promotion or dismissal of officials of "Sonin" rank; and shall, at his discretion, effect the promotion or dismissal of officials of "Hannin" rank and lower officials.

The promotion and dismissal of officials of "Sonin" rank belonging to local Government offices shall be submitted to the Throne by the Minister of Home Affairs, through the Prime Minister.

Article 8.

Each Minister shall submit to the Throne, through the Prime Minister, the conferment of Court Ranks and Orders of Merit upon Government officials under his jurisdiction.

The conferment of Court Ranks and Orders of Merit upon Government officials belonging to local Government offices shall be governed by the instance under the second paragraph of the preceding Article.

Article 9.

Deleted.

Article 10.

There shall be instituted in each Ministry the Secretariat of the Minister. The Secretariat of the Minister shall deal with the following affairs;

1. Matters concerning confidential affairs.
2. Matters concerning the promotion, dismissal and personal status of Government officials.
3. Matters concerning the custody of the Official Seal of the Minister and the Seal of the Ministry.
4. Matters concerning the receipt and dispatch of official documents and final-draft papers.
5. Matters concerning the preparation of statistics and reports.
6. Matters concerning the compilation and preservation of official documents.
7. Matters concerning the budgeting of the expenditure and revenue under the jurisdiction of the Ministry Proper, the settlement of accounts, and accounting.
8. Matters concerning the audit of accounts.
9. Matters concerning State-owned assets and articles under the jurisdiction of the Ministry proper.

10. Such other matters as may be specially included within the competency of the Secretariat of the Minister under the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Organization of the Ministry concerned.

The affairs of the Secretariat of a Minister may, to suit the convenience of his Ministry, be dealt with by its Bureaus or by a Bureau specially created for the purpose.

Article 11.

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Article 12.

There shall be instituted Bureaus in each Ministry to take charge of the Ministry's affairs assigned to them respectively. The affairs to be so assigned shall be defined by the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Organization of the Ministry concerned.

Article 13.

The division into Sections of the Secretariat of each Minister and of the Bureaus of his Ministry shall be governed by his decisions. The division into Sections at the Ministry of War and at the Ministry of the Navy shall be provided for by the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Organization of the Ministry concerned.

Article 14.

There shall be instituted in each Ministry the following personnel:

Parliamentary Vice-Minister.
Vice-Minister.
Parliamentary Counselor.
Directors of Bureaus.
Private Secretary.
Secretaries.
Clerks.

Article 14 (Second)

There shall be one Parliamentary Vice-Minister in each Ministry, and he shall be of "Chokunin" rank.

Article 14 (Third)

The Parliamentary Vice-Minister shall assist the Minister, take part in political affairs, and take charge of matters concerning negotiations with the Imperial Diet.

Article 15.

There shall be one Vice-Minister in each Ministry, and he shall be of "Chokunin" rank.

Article 16.

The Vice-Minister shall assist the Minister, co-ordinate the affairs of the Ministry, and supervise the affairs of the Bureaus and Divisions.

Article 17.

There shall be one Parliamentary Counselor in each Ministry, and he shall be of "Chokunin" rank. He shall, under the instructions of the Minister, take part in matters concerning negotiations with the Imperial Diet and in other political affairs.

Article 18.

There shall be one Director in each Bureau, and he shall be of "Chokunin" rank. He shall, under the instructions of the Minister, take charge of the affairs of which the principal competency belongs to him, and direct and supervise the affairs of the Sections of his Bureau.

Article 19.

Deleted.

Article 20.

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Article 21.

A. Private Secretary shall be of "Sonin" rank. He shall, under the instructions of the Minister, take charge of confidential affairs or, as instructed as occasion may require, assist the affairs of other Sections.

Article 22.

Secretaries shall be of "Sonin" rank. They shall, under the instructions of the Minister, take charge of the affairs of the Secretariat of the Minister or assist the affairs of the Bureaus.

Article 23.

There shall be one full-time Private Secretary in each Ministry.

Article 24.

There shall be one Sectional Chief in each Section of the Secretariat of the Minister and of the Bureaus, and he shall be appointed from among

"Kotokan" (Members of the Higher Civil Service). He shall, under the instructions of his superiors, take charge of the affairs of his Section.

The Sectional Chiefs at the Ministry of War and the Ministry of the Navy shall be governed by the provisions of the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Organization of the respective Ministries.

Article 25.

Clerks shall be of "Hannin" rank. They shall, at the direction of their superiors, engage in general affairs.

Article 26.

Deleted.

Article 27.

In addition to the personnel mentioned in the present Rules, such other personnel as may be specially required by each Ministry shall be provided for by the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Organization of the Ministry concerned.

The prescribed numbers of Secretaries, Clerks and the personnel under the provisions of the preceding Paragraph shall be governed by the provisions of the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Organization of the Ministry concerned.

Supplementary Provisions.

Article 28.

The present Ordinance shall come into force on November 10th., 1893.

I hereby certify that this is the accurate and exact translation of the Japanese Original attached hereto.

/s/ Kenichi Otabe

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